



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

Child Care Subsidy Monthly Report

The following report reflects information contained in the Child Care Data System (CCDS) administered by the DESE Office of Childhood. Unless otherwise noted, data consists of un-duplicated counts of children and families participating in the subsidy program for the identified month.
Database as of May 6, 2026.

April 2026

SECTION 1: CHILD CARE HOUSEHOLD APPLICATIONS						
*The status reflects the action that was taken during the month indicated.						
		April	Change From Month Prior		Change From 2 Months Prior	
Submitted		3,023	-2.4%		-21.5%	
Approved		2,060	-26.1%		-23.0%	
Rejected		346	-57.5%		-70.6%	
Pending	15 Days or Less	469	Waitlist Priority	Applications On Waitlist	Average Days on Waitlist	Children On Waitlist
			1	201	33	455
			2	179	30	283
	More Than 15 Days	424	3	1,177	34	2,138
			4	401	32	687
Total Pending		893	Total	1,958	33	3,563

SECTION 2: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS AND CHILDREN APPROVED FOR SUBSIDY

		April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	Change From Month Prior	Change From 2 Months Prior
Approved Households	Income	18,014	17,900	17,859	0.6%	0.9%
	Protective Services	4,305	4,056	3,867	6.1%	11.3%
	Total	22,319	21,956	21,726	1.7%	2.7%
Approved Children	Income	28,352	29,409	30,088	-3.6%	-5.8%
	Protective Services	6,846	6,995	7,010	-2.1%	-2.3%
	Total	35,198	36,404	37,098	-3.3%	-5.1%

SECTION 3: CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PAYMENTS

		April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	Change From Month Prior	Change From 2 Months Prior
Children Served	Income	23,605	23,028	22,469	2.5%	5.1%
	Protective Services	5,237	5,069	4,944	3.3%	5.9%
	Total	28,834	28,087	27,398	2.7%	5.2%
Payments	Income	\$22,449,029	\$20,915,675	\$21,294,165	7.3%	5.4%
	Protective Services	\$6,591,844	\$6,153,762	\$6,264,216	7.1%	5.2%
	Total	\$29,040,873	\$27,069,437	\$27,558,380	7.3%	5.4%
Average Payment Per Child		\$1,007	\$964	\$1,006	4.5%	0.1%

SECTION 4: TRANSITIONAL CHILD CARE SUMMARY

	Level 1 (151-185% FPL)			Level 2 (186-215% FPL)			Level 3 (216-242% FPL)		
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026
Approved Households	751	691	610	274	245	201	125	107	92
Children Served	1,204	1,151	1,145	395	368	337	168	148	140
Payments	\$1,041,919.41	\$954,214.37	\$977,935.27	\$334,055.46	\$309,355.37	\$299,160.84	\$138,023.87	\$114,310.73	\$117,589.75
Average Payment per Household	\$1,387	\$1,381	\$1,603	\$1,219	\$1,263	\$1,488	\$1,104	\$1,068	\$1,278
Average Child Expenditure	\$865	\$829	\$854	\$846	\$841	\$888	\$822	\$772	\$840

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SECTION 5: CHILDREN SERVED BY AGE		
	Children Served April 2026	Payments April 2026
Under Age 1	1,333	\$2,290,229
AGE 1	3,294	\$6,075,556
AGE 2	4,204	\$4,955,057
AGE 3	4,626	\$4,561,770
AGE 4	4,322	\$4,138,762
AGE 5	3,357	\$2,682,470
AGE 6	1,867	\$1,092,286
AGE 7	1,512	\$834,164
AGE 8	1,268	\$692,972
AGE 9	1,033	\$569,339
AGE 10	848	\$469,413
AGE 11	612	\$340,781
AGE 12	353	\$208,497
AGE 13	165	\$96,490
Age 14 and Over	40	\$33,087
Total	28,834	\$29,040,873

SECTION 6: APPLICATIONS BY STATUS AND REGION								
April 2026								
*The status reflects the action that was taken during the month indicated.								
Applications Received		Applications Approved	Applications Rejected	Percent Rejected	Total Resolved	15 Days or Less	More Than 15 Days	Percent Over 15 Days
Cape Girardeau	134	55	16	11.0%	71	43	33	43.4%
Columbia	84	40	8	8.2%	48	18	29	61.7%
Jefferson City	91	40	10	9.4%	50	33	22	40.0%
Macon	32	14	5	13.2%	19	9	11	55.0%
Not Selected	1,605	1,505	155	9.0%	1,660	13	15	53.6%
Raytown	347	130	43	11.2%	173	114	94	45.2%
Springfield	188	82	20	9.3%	102	63	51	44.7%
St. Louis	542	194	89	14.2%	283	176	169	49.0%
Total	3,023	2,060	346	10.4%	2,406	469	424	47.5%

SECTION 7: REASON FOR CARE FOR APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS BY REGION								
April 2026								
Region	Education	Employment	Homeless	Incapacitated Parent	Job Search	Protective Services	Special Need	Training
Cape Girardeau	186	1,634	50	12	349	694	21	17
Columbia	101	885	51	7	227	307	22	23
Jefferson City	98	953	29	7	225	458	19	9
Macon	50	379	8	3	83	191	11	2
Not Selected	1,226	7,679	311	59	2,112	2,128	138	197
Raytown	532	2,952	312	28	1,128	888	70	129
Springfield	237	1,623	65	12	409	748	42	15
St. Louis	1,012	5,844	476	67	1,817	1,003	132	142
Total	2,209	14,183	990	138	4,227	4,316	318	336



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SECTION 8: REASON FOR CARE FOR APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS AND CHILDREN						
	Households			Children		
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026
Education	2,209	2,176	2,117	3,641	3,778	3,831
Employment	14,183	13,919	13,753	24,971	25,828	26,375
Homeless	990	1,005	1,020	1,308	1,358	1,396
Incapacitated Parent	138	137	139	238	249	249
Job Search	4,227	4,240	4,287	4,607	4,739	4,824
Protective Services	4,316	4,067	3,878	6,865	7,018	7,033
Special Need	318	314	314	492	521	553
Training	336	330	333	593	610	615
Total	22,316	21,953	21,723	35,162	36,366	37,053

SECTION 9: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED CHILDREN BY RACE			
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026
African American (Black)	16,645	17,153	17,483
American/Alaskan Native	279	299	303
Asian	111	115	119
Caucasian (White)	13,134	13,626	13,886
Multi-Racial	3,815	3,951	3,996
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	44	47	53
Other	495	531	549
Prefer not to answer	663	679	700
Unknown	1	0	0
Total	35,162	36,366	37,053

SECTION 10: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED CHILDREN BY ETHNICITY			
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026
Hispanic	5.7%	5.8%	5.8%
Non-Hispanic	91.2%	91.1%	91.0%
Prefer not to answer	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



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SECTION 11: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME					April 2026
*excludes Protective Services households					
Household Size	Approved Households	% of Total Households Last Month along Table (Down)		Average Household Monthly Income	
0	0	0.0%		\$2,419	
1	226	1.0%		\$54	
2	6,964	31.2%		\$1,010	
3	7,469	33.5%		\$1,255	
4	5,302	23.8%		\$1,402	
5	2,988	13.4%		\$1,477	
6	1,417	6.3%		\$1,390	
7 or More	1,037	4.6%		\$1,280	
Total	22,316	100.0%		\$1,131	

SECTION 12: CHILDREN SERVED AND AVERAGE PAYMENT PER CHILD BY FACILITY										
Provider Type	Provider Facility Type	April 2026			March 2026			February 2026		
		Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per ..	Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per .	Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per ..
Exempt	Exempt Program	815	\$458,739.54	\$563	707	\$378,011.83	\$535	696	\$386,681.40	\$556
	Six or Fewer	1,219	\$791,290.80	\$649	1,157	\$723,365.53	\$625	1,163	\$727,679.45	\$626
License Exempt	Religious Organization/ Nursery School	1,848	\$1,469,099.76	\$795	1,780	\$1,326,726.87	\$745	1,779	\$1,315,438.70	\$739
Licensed	Licensed Child Care Center	23,641	\$25,105,670.44	\$1,062	23,120	\$23,474,709.59	\$1,015	22,499	\$23,966,976.11	\$1,065
	Licensed Family Child Care Home	949	\$852,843.14	\$899	952	\$811,075.32	\$852	909	\$791,899.14	\$871
	Licensed Group Child Care Home	497	\$362,104.32	\$729	479	\$355,548.05	\$742	488	\$369,705.24	\$758
Total		28,834	\$29,039,748.00	\$1,007	28,087	\$27,069,437.19	\$964	27,398	\$27,558,380.04	\$1,006

SECTION 13: PAID AND CONTRACTED PROVIDERS									
*Includes contracted providers and providers in the process of renewing their contract.									
			April 2026		March 2026		February 2026		
Contracted Providers	Exempt	Exempt Program	186		186		185		
		Six or Fewer	371		382		380		
	Licensed	Licensed Child Care Center	1,203		1,205		1,207		
		Licensed Family Child Care Home	186		187		180		
		Licensed Group Child Care Home	56		56		56		
	Licensed Exempt	Religious Organization/Nursery School	103		104		103		
	Total		2,105		2,120		2,111		

SECTION 14: CHILDREN RECEIVING OTHER STATE ASSISTANCE					
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	Change From Month Prior	Change From 2 Months Prior
Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP)	2,524	2,490	2,473	1.4%	2.1%
Low Income Housing	2,404	2,336	2,276	2.9%	5.6%
Medicaid	18,202	17,721	17,274	2.7%	5.4%
Food Stamps (SNAP)	17,101	16,736	16,408	2.2%	4.2%
Temporary Assistance (TANF)	695	664	717	4.7%	-3.1%
Total	21,275	20,767	20,237	2.4%	5.1%